



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

# **Construction Bulletin**

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## **CEMP-C**

**Subject:** Claims Guidance System

**Applicability:** INFORMATION

1. The Construction Engineering Research Laboratories (CERL) has developed a field support tool called the CLAIMS GUIDANCE SYSTEM (CGS) to review and analyze contractual claims that may arise during administration of our construction contracts. This computer based system provides a methodical means by which field personnel can review the pertinent issues involved in any particular construction contractual dispute. The system contains separate modules dealing with the following potential areas in dispute:

**MODULE 1 - Differing Site Conditions Clause**

**MODULE 2 - Changes Clause**

**MODULE 3 - Default Clause**

**MODULE 4 - Suspension Of Work Clause**

2. The CLAIMS GUIDANCE SYSTEM can be used for the following purposes:

a. As a field support tool - CGS can provide the project engineer or contract administrator with assistance in the analysis of disputes and/or potential claims. The knowledge obtained through use of the CGS may prevent disputes or reduce their effects, thus minimizing the number of disputes or claims brought by the contractor. It will also help resident engineers to evaluate potential disputes and to make more uniform decisions in the resolution of disputes at the construction site.

b. As a management support tool - CGS can provide documentation to assist project engineers, ACO's, and other project personnel in reviewing potential disputes. This documentation can include background information about the site, identification of potential areas of dispute, and the CGS systems intermediate and final decisions as it determines the contractor's potential chance for entitlement under a dispute that involves one of the above noted FAR clauses.

CEMP-CP

SUBJECT: Claims Guidance System

c. As a training tool - CGS can assist new personnel in field offices to familiarize them with the contractual process and issues that affect construction contract administration disputes. The CGS system will provide a detailed account of its analysis and the contractual basis for each potential claim situation. Users will gain a great deal of insight into the reasoning process involved in reviewing a construction contract dispute, and CGS will provide documentation of the analysis.

3. The CLAIMS GUIDANCE SYSTEM (CGS) is currently available and copies of the software and operating manual can be obtained free of charge by contacting CERL at the following address:

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Construction Engineering Research Laboratories  
Business Processes Division  
ATTN: Ms. Moonja Kim  
P.O. Box 9005  
Champaign, Illinois 61826-9005

TEL: 1-800-USA-CERL - EXT. 6791  
1-217-373-6791

4. This Construction Bulletin has been fully coordinated with CERL, the Office of the Chief Counsel (CECC-C), the PARC's office (CEPR-ZA), and CECW-OC. My point of contact for any questions regarding this CB is Mr. Walt Norko in the Construction Policy Branch at (202) 761-1380.

  
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